

Flickering Lights? Let's Figure Out What Yours Are Trying to Say.

Hello there, Coombabah homeowner. You were about to relax with a nice evening when your living room light starts to do the little jig? That slight--or not-so-little--stammering can be as much annoyance as it can be a baffler. There is nothing unusual in you; it is one of the best causes that make people like me be called out to have a look.

As a [local Electrician Coombabah](#), I can say that hardly any flicker is a cause to lose your head. At times, however, it is a red flag of your home. The art is to be able to tell the difference.

So, we are taking a virtual cup of tea and taking a stroll on what these flickering lights may be. I will demonstrate to you the fixes that can readily be done by yourself and more importantly indicate exactly when it is time to take out the phone and get somebody on the line.

The No-Sweat Flickers (You've Probably Got This) First Up.

These are some of the typical miscreants, first examine them before you fret. They tend to be the easiest to get.

1. The Wiggly Bulb

This is the classic. Imagine it is a loose battery in a remote--the contact is not tight.

What is Going On: Light bulbs have the ability to loosen gradually over the years due to minute vibrations (such as the bass on your favourite song or the kids running along the hall). Or the bulb itself may be of its last legs.

- Your Game Plan:

- o Be on the safe side and switch off the light.
- o Allow the bulb to cool off in case it was on.
- o Give it a gentle tighten. Nobody needs superhuman strength!
- o Just change it to a new one in case it continues flickering.

2. The Bulb and Dimmer Mismatch

The dimmable lights that we use to make the atmosphere are much-loved, but the technology can be a bit finicky.

- **What is Going on:** In case you have an older dimmer and you have recently selected the new [LED bulbs](#), they do not get along well. The flickering is their means of complaining of bad connection.
- **Your Game Plan:** Check if you have checked the box that your LED bulbs were in. Does it say "dimmable"? If not, that's your problem. Assuming that they are dimmable, then it is possibly your old switch. An Electricians Coombabah like me would normally do this sort of job, which would be to replace that old dimmer to a new and LED-compatible dimmer.

3. The "Power-Hungry Appliance" Shrug

Does the light in the kitchen dim for just a second when the fridge or air conditioner kicks in? You're probably seeing this.

- **What's Happening:** Big appliances need a big burst of energy to start up. That sudden demand can cause a tiny, brief drop in voltage for the rest of the circuit, and your lights will dim to show for it.
- **Your Game Plan:** A small, brief dim is usually normal. But if it's a major dip or lasts more than a second, it could be a sign of a deeper issue. If it gets worse, it's worth having someone take a look.

Okay, Now for the "Pay Attention" Flickers (Time to Call a Pro)

This is the serious part. If your lights are doing any of the following, please stop what you're doing and listen. Your safety is what matters most.

1. Loose Wiring - The Big One

This is the cause that makes any electrician sit up straight. A loose wire anywhere in your circuit is bad news.

- **The Tell-Tale Signs:**

- The flickering isn't just in one lamp; it's in multiple lights across a room.
- You might hear a faint **buzzing or sizzling** from a switch or power point.
- You catch a whiff of something **burning** – that distinct hot plastic smell.
- A light switch or power point faceplate feels **warm to the touch**.

- **Why It's Scary:** A loose connection creates a tiny spark (called an arc) that gets incredibly hot. This heat is enough to start a fire inside your walls, often without you seeing it until it's too late.

- **What to Do: Do not investigate this yourself.** This is not a DIY moment. You need to call a licensed **Electrician Coombabah** immediately. We have the tools and training to find the loose connection safely and fix it for good.

2. An Overloaded Circuit

Your home's wiring is like a network of roads, and each circuit has a speed limit. Plug in too much, and you get a traffic jam.

- **What's Happening:** When you run a hair dryer, space heater, and the toaster all on the same circuit, you're asking for more power than the wires can safely handle. The flickering is the system straining at its limits.

- **The Signs:** The flickering happens predictably when you turn on a specific high-power appliance. You might also find yourself constantly resetting the same circuit breaker.
- **Why It's a Problem:** All that strain creates heat inside your walls. Over time, this heat can cook the protective coating off the wires, leading to shorts and creating a fire risk.
- **What to Do:** An experienced **Electrician Coombabah** can trace your circuits, identify the overload, and provide a fix. This might mean moving some plugs to a different circuit or even adding a new, dedicated line for your high-power appliances.

3. Trouble on the Main Stage

Sometimes, the issue isn't inside your house at all. It's where your home connects to the street's power.

- **The Signs:**
 - **All** the lights in your house flicker at the same time, not just in one area.
 - The flickering seems to affect everything, even appliances that are plugged in.

The reason is that a failed main connection will cause power surges that may fry your costly electronics such as your TV or computer and can be a serious fire hazard.

What to Do: In case you observe this, it is better to communicate with your neighbours. Should they be experiencing the same problem then it is probably the main grid, so you must contact your energy company. However, first, a local Electricians Coombabah call can assist. We may test your meter box and main switchboard to determine whether the problem falls on your side or not thus greatly saving your time and misunderstanding.

Your Simple Action Plan

So, your light is flickering. Here's what to do, step-by-step:

1. Don't Fret. Start Simple. Tighten the bulb. Replace it with another room with a known good one. Does that fix it? Great!
2. Play Detective. When does it happen? Only with the AC? Only in the lounge room? This hint comes in very handy.
3. Use Your Senses. Listen for buzzing. Sniff for burning smells. Feel for warmth on switches. Senses will strong deceive us.
4. When in Doubt, Ring Us Out. When the simple solution failed, or you noticed any of the Pay Attention cues, it is time. Please, don't take a chance.

It is not only that the flicker needs to be fixed by hiring a licensed Electricians Coombabah; it is a matter of peace of mind. We are your neighbours and we are concerned with how we ensure that our locality is safe. We will locate the actual source of the problem and ensure that the solution is secure, licensed and durable.

Conclusion: Listening to Your Home.

Imagine that those flickering lights are your home speaking to you. It is sometimes nothing more than a whisper (Psst, my bulb is loose!). At other times it is a cry of help.

You now have a good idea of what to listen to. Trust your gut. When something is wrong, it is likely to be. It is always advisable to be on the safe side and seek the advice of a professional than sorry. And then when your lights in Coombabah are attempting to communicate to you a message

which you simply cannot read, you will have the number to call. We're here to help.